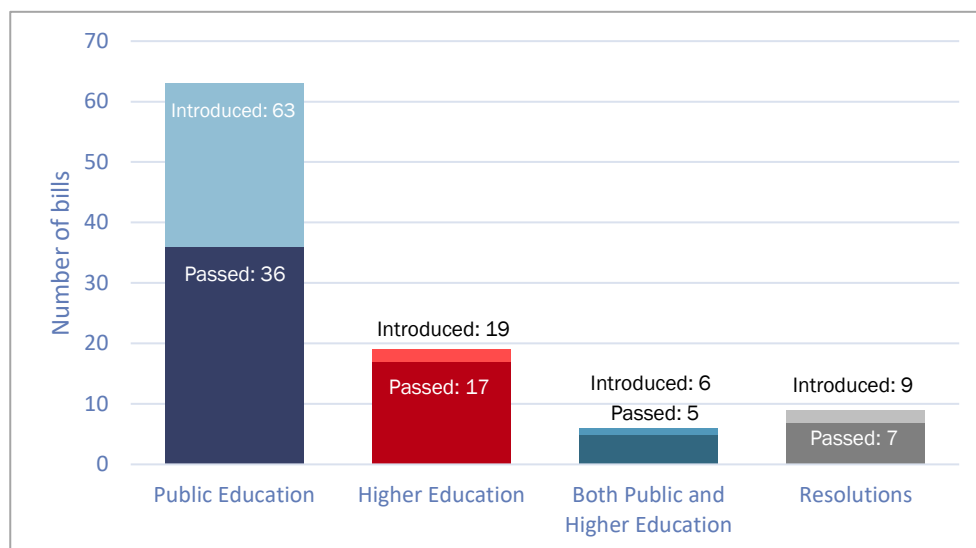


# 2021 General Session Education Bills

Education Interim Committee | May 6, 2021

## Bills and Resolutions Introduced and Passed

During the 2021 General Session, the Legislature introduced 63 bills related to public education, 19 bills related to higher education, six bills related to both public and higher education, and nine resolutions related to both public and higher education. These totals include two budget bills, but do not include bills that affect all state agencies generally.



## Summary of Bills Passed during the 2021 General Session

The table below includes information about the education-related bills that were enacted during the 2021 General Session. Bills with an asterisk\* include an appropriation.

Education Bills that Passed During the 2021 General Session			
Number	Bill Name	Sponsor	Summary of Education Related Provisions
Public Education Bills			
<a href="#">H.B. 2*</a>	Public Education Budget Amendments	Rep. Eliason	Appropriates funds for the support and operation of public education in the state for fiscal year 2020-2021.
<a href="#">H.B. 38</a>	School Technology Amendments	Rep. Seegmiller	Requires that any digital resources provided by UETN to public schools must block obscene or pornographic material.
<a href="#">H.B. 42</a>	Education Agency Report Process Amendments	Rep. Pulsipher	Requires the State Board of Education to establish a policy or procedures to evaluate the impact that required reports may have on the existing reporting requirements for a local education agency (LEA). This bill also removes some existing reporting requirements from statute.
<a href="#">H.B. 81</a>	Mental Health Days for Students	Rep. Winder	Adds mental or behavioral health as a valid excuse for a school absence.
<a href="#">H.B. 93</a>	Youth Suicide Prevention	Rep. King	Amends some provisions related to youth suicide prevention programs, such as: dividing elements of prevention programs between elementary and

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	Programs Amendments		secondary grades, requiring communications between LEAs and parents, and requiring LEAs to ensure coordinate between suicide prevention programs and other prevention programs.
<a href="#">H.B. 116</a>	Student Attendance Amendments	Rep. Robertson	Prohibits LEAs from requiring documentation from a medical professional for an absence due to mental or physical illness.
<a href="#">H.B. 124</a>	Civics Education Amendments	Rep. Johnson	Makes a technical change to the definition of the basic civics test – required for graduation – to reflect changes to the test form used by the United State Citizenship and Immigration Services.
<a href="#">H.B. 134</a>	Notice of Public Education Reporting Requirement	Rep. Pulsipher	When a bill has an impact on reporting requirements for LEAs, requires the State Board of Education to notify the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst.
<a href="#">H.B. 181</a>	Personalized Competency-based Learning	Rep. Johnson	Amends provisions related to personalized, competency-based learning, including: replacing “competency-based education” with “personalized, competency-based learning,” defining “personalized, competency-based learning,” and renaming grant programs.
<a href="#">H.B. 182</a>	Educator Hearings Amendments	Rep. Hall	When educators have a hearing before a school board, requires the hearings to be recorded at the school board’s expense and allows any final action or the school board to be appealed to the Court of Appeals. This bill also requires a notice of appeal to be filed and specifies that the review by the Court of Appeals is limited to the record of the school board and only to determine whether the school board exceeded their discretion or authority.
<a href="#">H.B. 300</a>	Reporting Requirements for Local Education Agencies	Rep. Pulsipher	Requires the State Board of Education to work with LEAs to develop a process to review reports required in statute and state board rule. When reviewing required reports, the state board should take several factors into consideration, such as the time and cost to complete a required report and whether the information the report provides could be obtained by other means.
<a href="#">H.B. 323</a>	High Poverty Schools Teacher Bonus Program Amendments	Rep. Winder	Makes amendments to the Effective Teachers in High Poverty Schools Incentive Program. Specifically, amends eligibility requirements for teachers in high poverty schools to receive a salary bonus in the 2020-21 school year, and allows a school qualified as a high poverty school in the 2018-29 and 2019-202 school years to qualify in the 2020-21 school year.

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<a href="#">H.B. 345</a>	School Resource Officers Amendments	Rep. Hollins	Amends provisions related the state board's statutorily required training for school resource officers.
<a href="#">H.B. 369</a>	School Bus Inspection Amendments	Rep. Musselman	Requires LEA governing boards to establish a written policy that requires school bus drivers to inspect the entire interior of a school bus at the end of every route and requires disciplinary action for failure to perform the inspection.
<a href="#">H.B. 372</a>	Start Smart Utah Breakfast Program Amendments	Rep. Johnson	Delays the dates by which certain public schools are required to serve breakfast to students after the school day begins.
<a href="#">H.B. 378</a>	Education Standards Review Committee Amendments	Rep. Last	Requires the State Board of Education to notify the speaker of the House of Representatives and the president of the Senate before establishing a standards review committee. Allows the state board, instead of legislative leadership, to appoint specific members of the standards review committee if they cannot make appointments within a certain time frame.
<a href="#">H.B. 381</a> *	Grow Your Own Teacher and School Counselor Pipeline Program	Rep. J. Moss	Creates the Grow Your Own Teacher and School Counselor Pipeline Program, which will provide funding to LEAs through a competitive grant program to awards scholarships to eligible candidates. These scholarships are for paraprofessionals, school counselor assistants, and school counselor interns employed in an LEA and must be used towards obtaining teaching or school counselor credentialing.
<a href="#">H.B. 402</a>	School Transportation Funding Amendments	Rep. Johnson	Requires the State Board of Education to use fiscal year 2019 data to distribute fiscal year 2021 and 2022 state appropriations for student transportation and for determining the percent of students eligible for free or reduce-price lunch to determine if an LEA is eligible for the rural school transportation reimbursement.
<a href="#">H.B. 421</a> *	Intensive Services Pilot Program	Rep. Judkins	Creates the Intensive Services Special Education Pilot Program to provide funding to LEAs to supplement the cost of educating students with intensive special education needs.
<a href="#">H.B. 425</a> *	Education Monitoring and Funds Management Amendments	Rep. Snow	Creates the Charter School Closure Reserve Account to pay outstanding debts of a charter school when the school closes under specific circumstances. The account will be funded through appropriations from the Legislature, and contributions from charter schools.

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<a href="#">H.B. 426</a>	Therapy Animals Amendments	Rep. Judkins	Requires LEAs to create a policy for the handling of therapy animals if the LEA provides animal-assisted interventions through therapy animals.
<a href="#">H.B. 450</a> *	Supplemental Educator COVID-10 Stipend Amendments	Rep. Last	Provides educators, including those who teach in an online-only setting, and other student and school support staff with a one-time stipend.
<a href="#">S.B. 1</a> *	Public Education Base Budget Amendments	Sen. Fillmore	Appropriates funds for the support and operation of public education in the state for fiscal year 2020-2021.
<a href="#">S.B. 77</a> *	Kiwanis Special Group License Plate	Sen. McKell	Creates a special group license plate to support the mission and purpose of Kiwanis International clubs within the state, and directs donations of license plate recipients be distributed to the Education Fund.
<a href="#">S.B. 142</a>	Public Education Funding Amendments	Sen. Fillmore	Enacts a weighted pupil unit add-on for at-risk students, specifically English learners and students who qualify for free or reduced-price lunch. Requires the Public Education Appropriations Subcommittee to evaluate public education funding, make recommendations for future legislation, and report to the Executive Appropriations Committee.
<a href="#">S.B. 145</a>	Military Family Education Amendments	Sen. Millner	Allows students with parents enrolled in the military and relocating to the state or out of the state to enroll in a public school before moving to the state or remain enrolled after the parent relocates out of state.
<a href="#">S.B. 148</a>	Public Education Modifications	Sen. Grover	Requires LEAs to provide parents with access to the curriculum the LEA uses and, for students enrolled in an online course, access to specific information about the course. For each grading period, requires LEAs to provide students a grade or performance report for each course in which the student is enrolled, including their progress based on mastery.
<a href="#">S.B. 154</a>	Teacher Salary Supplement Program Amendments	Sen. Sandall	Allows a teacher with a professional deaf education license to be eligible for the Teacher Salary Supplement Program.
<a href="#">S.B. 160</a>	State Audit Amendments	Sen. Buxton	Authorizes the legislative auditor to perform appropriation audits of local education agencies.
<a href="#">S.B. 178</a>	Education Deadline and Fiscal Flexibility	Sen. Fillmore	Provides flexibility to or extends certain education spending restrictions, allowing LEAs to transfer a portion of state restricted funds in the LEA's general fund to be used without state restrictions in some circumstances. This bill also delays the date

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			after which the State Board of Education may enter into an agreement with additional scholarship granting organizations, and delays by one year the requirement that a student fee be equal or less than the cost to the LEA of providing the activity, course, or program.
<a href="#">S.B. 184</a>	School Assessment and Accountability Amendments	Sen. Riebe	For the 2020-21 school year, exempts the State Board of Education from assigning an A-F letter grade to schools, publishing report cards, identifying low-performing schools, and determining a school performance success and student academic achievement under the Teacher and Student Success Program. For the 2020-21, 2021-22, and 2022-23 school years, also makes changes to permitted uses for school turnaround funds appropriated in prior years.
<a href="#">S.B. 187</a> (vetoed)	Local Education Policies Amendments	Sen. Winterton	Before issuing a health order that would direct affect LEAs and private schools, requires state or local officials and health departments to notify LEAs and private schools of a meeting to discuss the order and notify the LEAs and private schools at least 10 calendar days before the order extends if they intent to extend the public health order.
<a href="#">S.B. 211</a>	Child Care Background Check Modifications	Sen. Anderegg	Modifies background check requirements for individuals who are responsible for the care, custody, or control of children, and defines the State Board of Education as a qualifying child-care entity.
<a href="#">S.B. 219</a>	Truancy Enforcement Moratorium	Sen. McCay	Decriminalizes certain truancy violations until 2022 and prohibits issuance and enforcement of notices of compulsory education violation and notices of truancy during the moratorium.
<a href="#">S.B. 226</a>	Online Education Program Revisions	Sen. Johnson	Allows a certified online course provider approved by the State Board of Education to offer courses directly through the Statewide Online Education Program, establishes requirements for the state board to approved course providers, and authorizes the state board to set fees to cover the costs of regulating course providers.
<a href="#">S.B. 234</a>	Statewide Online Education Program Amendments	Sen. Cullimore	Allows the Statewide Online Education Program to offer courses for middle school credit and establishes a limit on the number of middle school courses a private school student may enroll in each year. Allows the State Board of Education to prioritize certain students if legislative appropriations are insufficient.

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<b>Higher Education Bills</b>			
<a href="#"><u>H.B. 1</u></a> *	Higher Education Base Budget	Rep. Miles	Appropriates funds for the support and operation of higher education in the state for fiscal year 2020-2021.
<a href="#"><u>H.B. 8</u></a> *	State Agency and Higher Education Compensation Appropriations	Rep. J. Moss	Provides funding for salary increases for higher education.
<a href="#"><u>H.B. 46</u></a>	Student Prosperity Savings Program Amendments	Rep. Eliason	Repeals some income tax incentives related to the Student Prosperity Savings Program.
<a href="#"><u>H.B. 159</u></a>	Higher Education Speech	Rep. Teuscher	Prohibits institutions of higher education from sanctioning or disciplining act of speech that do not constitute discriminatory harassment, as defined in statute.
<a href="#"><u>H.B. 278</u></a> *	Name Change Process for Dixie State University	Rep. Miles	Requires the Dixie State University Board of Trustees, in consultation with the Utah Board of Higher Education, to create a process to recommend a name for the institution and forward the name to the Legislature. This bill also requires the board of trustees to create a Heritage Committee.
<a href="#"><u>H.B. 279</u></a>	Higher Education for Incarcerated Youth	Rep. Snow	Creates the Dixie State University Higher Education for Incarcerated Youth Program, which will provide incarcerated youth with concurrent enrollment courses through Dixie State University.
<a href="#"><u>H.B. 318</u></a>	Higher Education Amendments	Rep. Ballard	Makes amendments to the system of higher education, including reorganizing provisions related to technical education provided by some degree-granting institutions, and amends provisions related to the duties of institution of higher education boards of trustees.
<a href="#"><u>H.B. 327</u></a> *	Civic Thought and Leadership Initiative	Rep. Burton	Requires Utah Valley University to establish the Civic Thought and Leadership Initiative.
<a href="#"><u>H.B. 328</u></a> *	Adult Learners Grant Program	Rep. Snow	Creates the Adult Learners Grant Program to provide financial assistance to students pursuing online education who: are at least 26 years old, meet financial eligibility criteria, and pursuing an online degree or certificate in a field with an industry need. Directs the Utah Board of Higher Education to distribute grant money to eligible students, prioritizing students from rural areas, and minority, low-income, and first-generation students.
<a href="#"><u>S.B. 45</u></a>	Higher Education Classes for Veterans	Sen. Weiler	Allows veterans to audit classes at institutions of higher education.



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<a href="#">S.B. 55</a>	Rural Online Initiative Sunset Amendments	Sen. Owens	Removes the sunset date of the rural online opportunities program administered by Utah State University and modifies reporting requirements.
<a href="#">S.B. 136</a>	Higher Education Scholarship Amendments	Sen. Owens	Replaces the Regents' Scholarship Program with the Opportunity Scholarship Program for degree-granting institutions and expands the eligibility and extends the availability of technical education scholarships. Prohibits the board from accepting applications for the New Century scholarships program after August 2021.
<a href="#">S.B. 143</a>	Revenue Bond and Capital Facilities Amendments	Sen. Wilson	Expresses the Legislature's intent relating to the Utah Board of Higher Education's issuance, sale, and delivery of revenue bonds to finance various projects.
<a href="#">S.B. 163</a>	Campus Safety Amendments	Sen. Iwamoto	Requires campus law enforcement to share a report of a crime that occurs outside campus law enforcement's jurisdiction with the local law enforcement agency that has jurisdiction. Requires institutions of higher education to create a report of crime statistics by type of housing facility, and include the report in the institution's annual campus safety report to the Education Interim Committee and the Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Interim Committee.
<a href="#">S.B. 172</a>	Rocky Mountain Center for Occupational and Environmental Health Amendments	Sen. Mayne	Requires the University of Utah and Weber State University to jointly operate the center.
<a href="#">S.B. 193</a>	Higher Education Performance Funding	Sen. Millner	Requires the Utah Board of Higher Education to set goals for the state system of higher education and institution goals that align with the system's goals, and establishing a model for determining that institutions performance in meeting these goals.
<a href="#">S.B. 244</a>	Student Religious Accommodations Amendments	Sen. Kennedy	Requires institutions of higher education to reasonably accommodate student absences from scheduled exams or academic requirements if they create an undue hardship because of a student's sincerely held religious beliefs. Directs institutions to annually publish information about this accommodation and requires the Board of Higher Education to make related policies.
Both Higher Education and Public Education			
<a href="#">H.B. 222</a>	School Land Trust Program Amendments	Rep. J. Moss	Amends provisions related to reporting and administration of the School Learning and Nurturing Development Trust Program.

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<a href="#">H.B. 233</a>	Education Immunization Modifications	Rep. Strong	Prohibits higher education institutions from requiring proof of vaccinations from students enrolling in the institution. Prohibits LEAs and higher education institutions that offer both remote and in-person learning from requiring vaccine-exempt students to participate remotely.
<a href="#">H.B. 288</a>	Education and Mental Health Coordinating Council	Rep. Peterson	Creates the Education and Mental Health Coordinating Council and tasks the council with providing guidance to state leaders on meeting behavioral health needs, including mental health and substance use issues, of youth and families.
<a href="#">S.B. 107</a>	In-Person Instruction Prioritization	Sen. Weiler	Establishes a case threshold and requires schools over that case threshold to initiate a “test to stay” program and requires the Department of Health to support LEAs that have initiative this kind of program. Requires LEAs to ensure that schools in the LEA continue to provide in-person instruction and requires institutions of higher education to provide a certain number of in-person courses during the 2021-22 academic year.
<a href="#">S.B. 169</a>	School and Institutional Trust Fund Office Amendments	Sen. Wilson	Increases the length of time used to determine the average value of the trust funds for purposes of determining the annual trust distribution amount. Reduces the number of annually required meetings of the School and Institutional Trust Fund Board of Trustees and allows the board to close a meeting in certain circumstances.

### Resolutions

<a href="#">H.C.R. 8</a>	Concurrent Resolution on Education	Rep. Lisonbee	Reaffirms that the state is secondary to and supportive of the primary role of a parent in educating the parent’s child.
<a href="#">H.C.R. 15</a>	Concurrent Resolution Emphasizing the Importance of Civics Education	Rep. Snow	Emphasizes the importance of teaching civic engagement and critical thinking to students, and encourages state leaders and others interested in civics education to review how civics education is taught in the state’s public schools.
<a href="#">H.C.R. 20</a>	Concurrent Resolution Supporting the Creation of the Utah State University Institute of Land, Water, and Air	Rep. Snider	Commends the university for creating the Institute of Land, Water, and Air and recognizes the university’s dedication to research and community engagement and preserving the state’s public lands.
<a href="#">H.C.R. 22</a>	Concurrent Resolution Celebrating the	Rep. Johnson	Acknowledges the contributions of multilingual and multicultural families to Utah’s schools.



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	Contributions of Multilingual and Multicultural Families to Utah Schools		
<a href="#">H.R. 8</a>	Resolution to Protect Utah's Institutions of Higher Education from Chinese Communist Party Influence	Rep. Pierucci	Calls on institutions of higher education with Confucius institutes to disclose information about the institutes and close them.
<a href="#">S.C.R. 1</a>	Concurrent Resolution on Holocaust Education	Sen. Vickers	Highlights the importance of Holocaust and genocide education.
<a href="#">S.C.R. 4</a>	Concurrent Resolution Recognizing Utah's Important Resolution with Western Governors University	Sen. McKell	Recognizes and encourages partnerships between the state and Western Governors University to address issues that prevent Utah residents from participating in higher education.